



VARE ADMITS BAD WORK AT ISLAND PARK

Walls' Demolition to Make Way for Park Practically a Confession to Faulty Construction.

"Safe Bet No Dynamite Will Be Needed to Tear Them Apart," Veteran Building Wrecker Declares.

Senator Edwin H. Vare, who constructed the "near concrete walls" in League Island Park at a cost of more than \$200,000 to the taxpayers, which three noted engineers condemned, has at last confessed his work was faulty. By his orders squads of laborers have torn down practically the entire structure.

Only small parts of the concrete wall are still visible. Expenditures for the park thus far have been about \$1,000,000. Laborers in the park frankly admitted today that demolishing the wall would be difficult for the contractor because of the job was the easiest he had encountered in years, because of the faulty material with which the structure was built.

Less than four months ago, after a board of experts assigned by Director Cooke, of the Department of Public Works, had submitted a report which stated that the walls were worthless because of many cracks, fissures and holes in them, Senator Vare made this confession:

"The wall is a handsome structure and there is nothing wrong." In face of conclusive proof furnished by the experts, composed of such men as Frederick W. Taylor, of this city, formerly consulting engineer of the Midvale Steel Company; Richard L. Humphrey, president of the American Concrete Institute; and Allen Hazen, of the firm of Hazen & Whitney, consulting engineers of New York, Vare issued emphatic denials of their grave charges.

Later the Senator employed a corps of engineers whose identity he refused to make public. The engineers were detailed to make an inspection of the "near-concrete walls." The report of the Senator's private investigators was never made public.

The Senator has made many trips in his automobile down to League Island since the work of razing the walls was begun. The demolition, which many residents in South Philadelphia declare is a disgrace to this city, was begun last July.

From his automobile, workmen declared today, Senator Vare no doubt had an excellent chance to view the cracked walls made of impurities. He also could see the worthless walls that at variance point.

DYNAMITE NOT NEEDED. In the group of workmen detailed in the park this morning was a veteran building wrecker and all-around laborer. This man, who has worked on many municipal construction jobs, frankly declared that, owing to the poor gravel used, it was a safe bet that dynamite wouldn't be needed.

The fellow who had the contract for razing these things, said, "I mean these walls—nothing but a pile of rubble." He said he knew a thing or two about concrete and he knew that these things were made of concrete and he knew that these things were made of concrete and he knew that these things were made of concrete.

Senator Vare has the contract for proceeding with the work in the park. He has given the contract to the contractor because his bid of \$200,000 was the lowest.

It is learned today that one of the first discoveries by laborers and others detailed to tear down the walls was that the structure was full of holes. Another interesting feature of the investigation was that the gravel contained wood chips and other material, part of which was made of wood.

The walls also show signs of poor workmanship. Many of them are constructed by the contractor in such a way that they will be ready for the next summer.

Following the instructions made last spring by the investigating committee, the contractor was later referred to the Attorney General for the purpose of ascertaining whether criminal or civil proceedings should be taken against those who were responsible for the scandal. District Attorney Hogan replied that he couldn't act because of the statute of limitations.

League Island Park for many years has been a haven for organized contractors and laborers. Aerial construction work was begun under the administration of Mayor Ashbridge. In the four years from 1890 to 1900 \$10,000,000 was appropriated in eight items, including \$100,000 as a prize for competitive designs. Of these amounts \$24,000 was laid out.

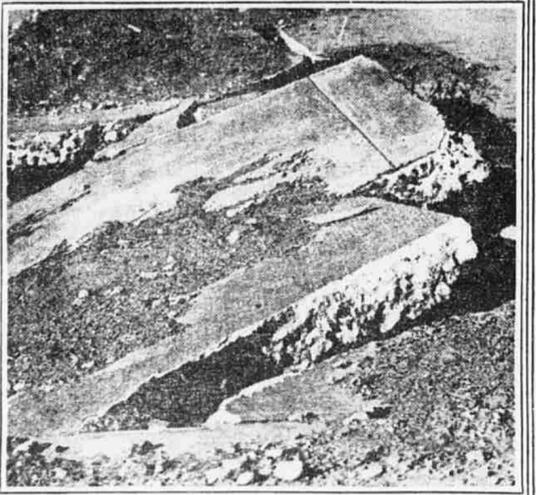
Another sum amount to \$500,000 was appropriated in 1903. A contract with Senator Vare was entered into for \$100,000. A supplemental contract was made in August, 1910, for \$750,000 and a second supplemental contract on June 20, 1911, for \$68,000. Later the supplemental contract was amended and the contractor was reprimanded, following an attack by a taxpayer's committee. Outstanding contracts were annulled and work was suspended until February, 1914.

When the Heyburn administration came into power \$20,133.24 was paid out, of which \$27,537 went for construction work, mostly for concrete, and the remainder of more than \$200,000 for grading.

VARE CONFESSES ERROR BY DESTROYING CITY WORK HE DEFENDED



PART OF "NEAR CONCRETE" WALL DEFENDED BY EDWIN H. VARE. WALL IS NOW BEING TORN DOWN



BROKEN ASPHALT PAVEMENT

BLOODHOUNDS PUT ON TRAIL OF SLAYER OF 18-YEAR-OLD GIRL

Bucks County Authorities Reinforced by State Police Keep Up Energetic Man Hunt.

Bloodhounds from the Eastern Penitentiary were taken to Buckingham Valley today in an attempt to run down John C. ...

HUNT CLUB HAS FIRST SPORT OF THE SEASON

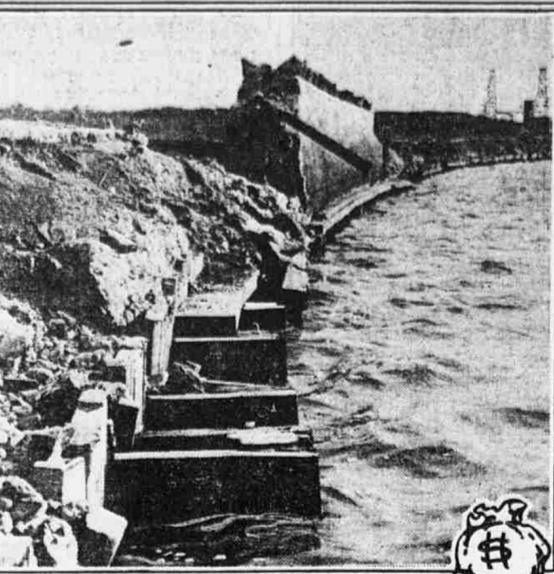
Members Start Across Country Today, But Reynard Gets Away.

Huntmen and hunt-women, members of the Waltham Hunt Club had their first sport of the season early this morning. With James G. ...

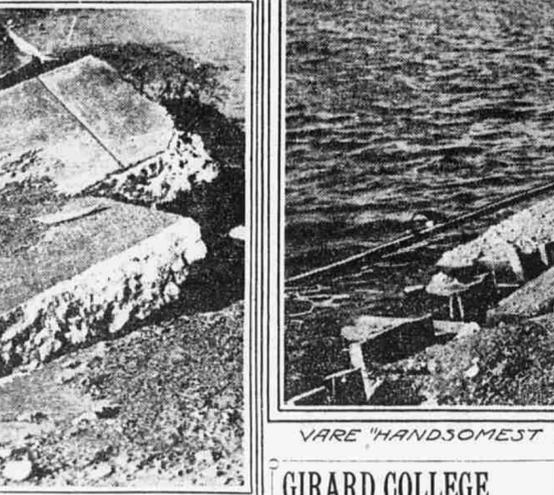
WAR'S HORRORS INEVITABLE WHEN MEN TURN TIGERS

George Wharton Pepper Thinks Atrocities Bound to Occur in Strife.

George Wharton Pepper, prominent Pennsylvania lawyer, an authority on church law and an attorney, expressed the opinion today that atrocities in war are inevitable whenever masses of men are for the time being turned into tigers.



PART OF "NEAR CONCRETE" WALL DEFENDED BY EDWIN H. VARE. WALL IS NOW BEING TORN DOWN



BROKEN ASPHALT PAVEMENT

GIRARD COLLEGE STUDENTS ESCAPE; ONE IS CAPTURED

Orphan, Seeking Adventure, Very Hungry, Slept Under Stars—Little Pal Yet Missing.

Forlorn and shivering, hungry and tired, a little boy who ran away from Girard College on Monday to seek adventure was found early today huddled in the shadow of the doorpost at 29th and Montgomery avenue.

KENNEY'S NIGHT CONCERT STIRRED FAMILY'S IRE

2 A. M. Recital Brings the Police and Peace Follows Discard.

Discord has given way to harmony in the Kenney family.

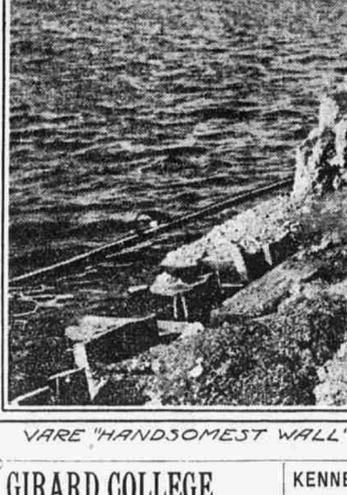
PENROSE AT DESK IN SENATE; IF YOU DOUBT, SEE MOVIES

Pictures Entertain Show Patrons, Films Costing Him \$100 a Week Being Furnished Free by Candidate.

Senator Penrose is entertaining the "movie fans" of Pennsylvania. He is paying the cost of keeping on the screens of motion picture houses in all parts of the State 29 prints of a 700-foot film, which are now in their second week of showings.



PART OF "NEAR CONCRETE" WALL DEFENDED BY EDWIN H. VARE. WALL IS NOW BEING TORN DOWN



BROKEN ASPHALT PAVEMENT

THE WEATHER

Official Forecast For Eastern Pennsylvania and New Jersey: Fair tonight and probably Thursday; not much change in temperature; moderate west winds.

There has been a general decrease in pressure during the last 24 hours, especially in New England and the Middle Atlantic States, and as a result there has been a change to warmer weather in all districts except the Upper Lake region and the extreme Southeast.

U. S. Weather Bureau Bulletin

Observations made at 8 a. m. Eastern time, last night.

Station. S. m. W. V. W. Weather.

NEGRO BURGERS SENTENCED

Samuel Worthington, alias Jones, a Negro, 120 Snodgrass street, arraigned for a further hearing, was sentenced to six months in the House of Correction today by Magistrate Morris.

Not content with their land-grabbing plans for \$2,000,000 court buildings at 2nd and Race streets, officials of the Municipal Court, through the Penrose-McNichol-controlled Councils, will attempt the seizure of the east corridor on the sixth floor of City Hall to accommodate them while the grabbing plans are being jammed through.

GRAB INCLUDES PLAN TO SEIZE CITY HALL SUITE

Rooms Occupied by Police Coveted by Municipal Court Pending \$2,000,000 Land Purchase.

Project Germinated Last April When Ouster of State Fencibles From Armory Appeared Imminent.

Not content with their land-grabbing plans for \$2,000,000 court buildings at 2nd and Race streets, officials of the Municipal Court, through the Penrose-McNichol-controlled Councils, will attempt the seizure of the east corridor on the sixth floor of City Hall to accommodate them while the grabbing plans are being jammed through.

If the State Fencibles are ousted from their armory on Broad street below Race and the Central police station takes that place, the Municipal court will get the east corridor, according to those with their eyes on the court's plans.

President Judge Charles L. Brown admitted the truth of this to Emanuel Furth, attorney for the Fencibles, when Furth, who had heard the rumor, taxed him with it two weeks ago. Those familiar with the situation say City Hall's east corridor is coveted by the Municipal Court as a shelter until the fate of the land grab is decided.

PLAN AND ITS ORIGIN The court's plans to seize the sixth floor corridor have a double significance, however. It developed today that the Municipal Court and the Penrose-McNichol Councilmanic leaders had their eyes on a site for the Municipal Court as long ago as last April, more than a month before Mrs. Richardson and Mrs. Jurist thought of the Magdalen Home property and passed on the idea to Judge Brown.

That the bacilli of a plan the size of the land scheme appeared first in the minds of Mrs. Richardson and Mrs. Jurist has surprised those who know the long-headed politician and his habit of searching the horizon for the main chance. Mrs. Richardson and Mrs. Jurist present any suggestion that the thought of the land scheme was not original with them.

But there was a plan to care for the Municipal Court before Mrs. Jurist and Mrs. Richardson set it in motion. Councilman told Emanuel Furth last April that he would do well not to press his fight against dislodging the Fencibles. They said he ought to wait until the fall.

Only last Saturday, when he read that the Municipal Court planned a grab at 2nd and Race streets, did he see why he was advised to wait until fall. Even now, he believes, the Municipal Court may want the sixth floor corridor at City Hall until there is a better outlook for the land-grabbing scheme.

FENCIBLES' PLEA IGNORED. The State Fencibles' lease on the armory expired March 1. Furth appealed to the joint Councilmanic Committee on City Property at a meeting April 2 and secured a recommendation for a renewal of the lease for two years. Then he looked to Councils to act upon the recommendation. But the recommendation remained buried in committee.

Through April Furth went about asking Councilmen to bring the renewal matter to a meeting. He would be better to let the business lie quietly until fall. "You'll do better then," they told him. But meanwhile the Municipal Court and the Fencibles' tenure in their armory was growing more and more shaky.

Then Councils adjourned without acting on the lease. Furth's plea. If the City Solicitor's action was effective the Fencibles could be saved from ejectment only by the action of Councils.

Last Thursday Furth met John P. Connelly, chairman of the Councils Finance Committee. He asked when Councils would do something about renewing the lease.

"We don't want your old armory," said Connelly.

"What the City Solicitor's action is going to have us out if you don't do something," Furth protested. On the following Monday Judge F. Ames DeMott was to have heard a second appeal from Furth for the Fencibles.

"TILL DE MOTT TO SLOW UP." "Well," Connelly told him, "you go tell DeMott that I said for him to suspend the case until the City Solicitor in charge of the ejectment proceedings."

"If I tell him that he'll think I'm representing myself," Furth said.

"Well," he said to me and I'll tell him," Connelly asserted.

Furth wrote DeMott, asking him to see Connelly. But when he met DeMott in court on Monday he learned that the Assistant City Solicitor and Connelly had not discussed the ejectment.

"We don't want to be fixed up in that kind of a thing," was DeMott's explanation.

It was two weeks ago that Furth went to Judge Brown and learned from him that the Municipal Court had been placed in court on Race street below Broad, that the building on Race street below Broad, that is being used now as a junk shop, would be very much better for the police than the Fencibles' armory.

Then he explained that the police could throw a bridge across from the rear of the building on Race street, which used to be a fire headquarters, to the Fencibles' armory, which would then be available as a gymnasium for the department.

"This appealed to Judge Brown as being a good idea, according to Furth, and he grew less heated. Then Judge Brown admitted freely that the sixth floor corridor was the aim of the court's plan."

Not content with their land-grabbing plans for \$2,000,000 court buildings at 2nd and Race streets, officials of the Municipal Court, through the Penrose-McNichol-controlled Councils, will attempt the seizure of the east corridor on the sixth floor of City Hall to accommodate them while the grabbing plans are being jammed through.